



Student Welfare Policy

Date	Term 4, 2016
Signed	Committee of Management
Review	Term 1, 2017

Refer: Communications of Concerns and Complaints, Child Safe Policy

AIMS

To develop the following:

- A safe and caring school environment that is free from bullying and any form of discrimination
- Clear expectations for student behaviour and the strategies used to promote good discipline and effective learning
- Clear procedures for dealing with unacceptable behaviour

RATIONALE

The Dandenong Ranges Steiner School endeavours to promote a healthy, supportive and secure environment for all children and to raise awareness of what makes students resilient, to develop strategies to reduce vulnerabilities, to build student/school connectedness, and to increase coping skills. The themes of our student welfare policy are to lead the children towards self-discipline.

To learn to accept and respect others, and the need to care for other people and their environment.

IMPLEMENTATION

Student Welfare is a shared responsibility between school, home and the community.

The school will adopt a proactive and strategic stance with issues of student welfare, rather than operating in a consistently reactive mode.

The school will implement the procedures and expectations within the Student Welfare Policy to students by:

- Communicating the policy to students within the classroom, discussing our rules, rights and responsibilities and appropriate behaviour and consequences with all students in an age appropriate manner according to their class level.
- Use the procedures of this policy in our interactions with students

Parents will:

- Be made aware of the Student Welfare Policy through the newsletter, school website and information evenings.
- Be involved in the evaluation of the policy and asked to provide comments regarding future directions.
- Be asked to support the principles of the policy at home and when required to attend meetings at school.

Teachers will:

- Ensure that they are familiar with all aspects of the Student Welfare Policy
- Contribute to the provision of a caring, well-managed, safe environment for all students, fellow staff and parents
- Participate in the school community's implementation of the Student Welfare Policy

Policies that fall under the Student welfare Policy:

Bullying Policy
Child Safe Policy
Child Safe code of Conduct
Behaviour Management Policy
Equal Opportunity Policy
Animals at School Policy
Attendance Policy
First Aid Policy
Anaphylaxis Policy
Supervision and Duty of Care
After School Duty of Care Policy

The school will implement student support structures and programs which prioritize and address the identified needs of individual students or the school as a whole and that help implement the aims of these policies.

The school will endeavour to implement and maintain a whole school program to develop resilience, social skills, conflict resolution and problem solving

The school will provide the following support structures:

- Behaviour management guidelines
- Monitoring of, and responding to, protracted student absences
- Procedures for Mandatory Reporting
- Anti-Bullying resources and materials

The school will also access outside services as necessary to provide support for students and staff. These may include: -

- Doctors
- Psychologists for psychological and academic assessment
- Department of Human Services case managers and support workers
- Social Workers to provide services such as counselling, social skills and anger management programs

EVALUATION :

This policy will be reviewed with whole staff, student, parent and community input on a yearly basis.